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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: KANEDA, et al.

Filed: February 12, 2002

For: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF  
STORAGE APPARATUS



**CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231


February 12, 2002

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. 2001-361908 filed in Japan on November 28, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

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